



DDSD Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) Meeting Notes

June 8, 2023

Draft

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lisa Blue (Co-chair), Daniel Ekman (Co-chair), Stevie Bass, Dan De Paula, Tracy Perry, Angelique Tafoya, April Spaulding, Jessica Gutierrez, Elisheva Levin, Laura Matthews, Siri Guru Nam Khalsa, Gabriela Ramos, Peggy O'Neill, Sandy Skaar, Judy Sena, Vashad Frink, Valerie Dewbre, Tim Gardner, Jim Copeland, Jacqueline Mares, Roel Adamson and Ann Marie Parmenter

MEMBERS ABSENT

Christine Bragg, Cynthia Chavez, and Crystal Garcia

STATE AGENCY NON-VOTING PARTNERS PRESENT

Amira Rasheed, Gay Finlayson

STATE AGENCIES PRESENT

ALTSO Sec. Katrina Hotrum-Lopez, Dominic Jaramillo, Nicole Hernandez, Evangeline Yanez, Elaine Hill, Jennifer Rodriguez, Victoria Herrera, Renee Valerio, Daniel Lucero, Michael Driskell, Teresa Larson, Christina Hill, Chris Futey, Juanita Salas, Anysia Fernandez, Frank Gaona

GUESTS

Shannon, Kate Nash, Robert Kegal, Scott Good, Adrienne Smith, Amanda Montano, Bruce Wetherbee, Cassandra DeCamp, A Cruz, Chris Leroi, Jacob Patterson, Selma Dodson, Jason Cornwell, Steve Wrigley, Patricia Osborn, Noah Raess, Michelle Eckles, Chinda Lucoski, Angela Ortega, Janelle Groover, Vanessa Sanchez, Selina Leyba, Lindsay Sloan

ACQ ADMINISTRATOR

Wendy Corry

WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Introductions will be made by printing names and agencies in the chat box. A reminder that everyone is invited to participate during Public Comment periods but otherwise the discussions are for ACQ members. ACQ BOD members, please list this on ZOOM with your name (not just in the chat) so the ACQ co-chairs can easily identify BOD members.
- A reminder that the ACQ is a safe, respectful place for all. Please direct all comments to the issues, not about specific individuals.
- The ACQ would like to thank Gabriella Ramos for 9 years of dedicated and passionate service to the ACQ! We will miss you!

The Exec. Comm. is very happy to announce that Siri Guru Nam Khalsa will be joining the Exec. Comm. and Scott Doan has been appointed the temporary DDS rep to the ACQ.

- Conflict of Interest Forms will be distributed to all ACQ members after approval of the revised ACQ By-Laws.
- All public comments that are available are posted on the CDD website, accessed through the ACQ page of the DDS website. Three public comments (April 2022, June 2022, and August 2022) will be posted as they are available.
- The next vote on new ACQ members will be in August.
- The ACQ Exec. Comm. has created a Survey Planet form to obtain feedback on the ACQ meetings. Please provide feedback at <https://s.surveypplanet.com/jmes7mjb> Results will be shared at the next ACQ meeting.
- The ZOOM setting for these meetings has been changed to allow participants to chat privately with individuals.
- If you have any concerns you want to bring to the attention of the ACQ Exec. Comm. please contact any ACQ Exec. Comm. member (Daniel Ekman (daniel.ekman@ddc.nm.gov), Lisa Blue (tblue11@comcast.net), Tracy Perry (tracy@directtherapyservices.com), or Wendy Corry (wendy@corryconsulting.com))

MEET AND GREET

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 2023

- Roel Adamson moved to approve the minutes with amendments. Judy Sena seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Public Comments are recorded through ZOOM and are available through the ACQ website at <https://www.nmhealth.org/about/dds/coco/acq/>.

DOH/DDS DIRECTOR'S REPORT: ALTS SEC. KATRINA HOTRUM-LOPEZ:

- Work continues on the rate studies; meetings are ongoing.
- Regarding the provider rate increase approved in 2023 legislative session, leadership is working with CMS. ADCAP had questions about whether this will be retro if it doesn't go out until July 1.
- The transition of DDS to the new Healthcare Authority is in the planning stages. More information will be coming in the next several months.
- Follow-up from the statewide investigations is ongoing. Only a handful of ANE cases were found, most providers are doing a good job. Visits will continue but in a more strategic manner.
- Discussion on balancing the critical role telehealth can play versus the effectiveness of telehealth for therapy as well as the need for hands on visits to ensure the safety of individuals. Tracy Perry stated the therapy provider network would love to meet with Secretary Hotrum-Lopez for further discussion.
- Discussion on the critical need for trained caregivers who people trust.

- The ACQ thanked Sec. Hotrum-Lopez for providing the report for the meeting and offered to be available in any way to work with her.

STATUS OF ACQ STATEMENTS ON THE HEALTHCARE AUTHORITY AND TELEHEALTH- DANIEL EKMAN

- Daniel Ekman reviewed the letter written based on the discussion from participants.
- The letter will be sent to DOH and DDS leadership pending review by ACQ members.
- People are encouraged to send their own letters in addition to the statement from the ACQ.

SUMMARY OF 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: REP. KATHLEEN CATES

- Representative Kathleen Holmes Cates and Rep. Liz Thompson hosted a listening session in Albuquerque with Cabinet Sec. Patrick Allen and ALTSD Sec. Katrina Hotrum-Lopez. The intent of the session was to listen to stakeholders' concerns about the recent state-wide visits of all DD Waiver providers. Numerous concerns were expressed. Rep. Cates and Rep. Thompson drafted a letter summarizing the concerns expressed and submitted the letter to Cabinet Sec. Allen and the Gov. Chief of Staff. The ACQ requested a copy of the document which will be provided. Additional listening sessions are scheduled.
- HB 395, Dev. Disability Support Provider Employees, passed during the recent session. This bill requires DOH to collect and report demographic and compensation data on DD direct support provider agency employees. The results of the data will help inform the pay rate for direct support professionals.
- Home modifications: Waiver plan had \$10,000 every 5 years that was cut down to \$5,000 dollars. The bill, which failed, was to waive the Gross receipts Tax paid on home modifications. Legislation will continue to be introduced on this issue and additional money will be requested.
- The ACQ expressed many thanks to Rep. Cates and Rep. Thompson for their advocacy on legislation of importance to the disability community. Rep Cates agreed to continue her engagement with the ACQ.

THE ACQ BY-LAWS- DANIEL EKMAN

- Daniel Ekman reviewed all recommended changes to the ACQ By-Laws in detail.
- After discussion, the draft By-Laws were voted on by ACQ members with the suggested revisions.
- Lisa Blue moved to approve the draft By-Laws with the revisions, Laura Matthews seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES- LISA BLUE

Mi Via Advisory Committee Update- Stevie Bass (MVAC Rep) and Elaine Hill (DDS Rep).

- Eliane: Monthly contact forms for Mi Via consultants will be completed on Therap starting on July 1. Will participate in BETA testing. Will allow DDS to see every contact consultant has with individuals being served. DDS will provide two separate training courses to consultant agencies and set up the training courses. SSPs will be used by consultants starting 7/1 (Updated). Mi Via training is mandatory. All roles have to complete ANE training before working with any

participant on an annual basis. Compliance date with all other trainings extended to July 1 (EXCEPT ANE). Will provide training link in notes.

- Stevie Bass will be leaving the ACQ in October after serving 9 years as the MVAC rep! Many thanks to Stevie! The MVAC will be selecting a new representative for the ACQ.
- The MVAC is creating a tutorial subcommittee for the MVAC which will focus on training.
- Discussion on MVAC membership categories to include representation from the vendors. Some MVAC vendors are feeling left out of the process/unable to provide a voice by being unable to be an MVAC member. Clarification was provided that MVAC serves in an advisory capacity and has set up a separate MVC vendor meeting to address their concerns.

Status of the ACQ Rate Study/Provider Capacity Comm.-Evangeline Yanez

- The Rate Study Comm. is in Phase 6, which is analysis and developing findings and recommendations. There was a meeting on June 6 to discuss the initial findings. PCG distributed three capacity assessment surveys. One for participant guardians, one for case managers and one for DD/Mi Via service providers. PCG will present its provider capacity assessment report by September 30, 2023.
- According to DDS the 5% ARPA money is on track to occur. Secretary or Acting Director or HSD would be sources.

DISCUSSION TO RECORD THE ENTIRE ACQ MEETING NOT JUST PUBLIC COMMENT-TRACY PERRY

- Transparency is important. Recordings can be utilized when discussing issues. People can view meetings when they want.
- DDS shared what they have learned from the MVAC request to record the entire meeting and post it on the DOH/DDS website. Issues include getting written consent every meeting from every participant, content must be reviewed for HIPAA breaches, possibly size issues, etc.
- Since the ACQ Public comments are posted on UNM/CDD's website, it is possible there are different regulations. This question will be pursued.

PALCO/Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) update- HSD

- No updates or questions at this time.

ACQ MEMBERSHIP STATUS- WENDY CORRY

- The next election for new members will be at the August ACQ meeting.

Public Comment-Lisa Blue

- None.

Share positive stories/Announcements: All

- Jim Copeland and a colleague discussed careers in interviewing working people with IDD for StoryCorps. 35-minute interview. StoryCorps Archive.
- Lisa Blue shared that AnnMarie Parmenter and her husband stayed with Lisa's son so Lisa and her husband could attend Marc Kolman's retirement party.

- New Exec. Comm. member Siri Guru Nam Khalsa reported she is on her way to Orlando to present research for the holistic nurses association.

Closing- Lisa Blue